

REMARKS

The present amendment is entered in light of the restriction requirement set forth in parent application Serial No. 09/214,307, and serves to expedite to the prosecution stage the subject matter of interest. Favorable action on the merits is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

PILLSBURY WINTHROP LLP

By: Bonnie Weiss McLeod
Bonnie Weiss McLeod
Registration No. 43,255

1600 Tysons Boulevard
McLean, Virginia 22102
(703) 905-2000
(703) 905-2500 Facsimile

Date: January 25, 2002
Attorney Reference: 050885/0290403